



VOL. XXXIII.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 13, 1865.

NO. 18.

Maine Farmer.

N. L. TRUE, Editor.

Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man.

Similarity of Purpose in the Structure of Plants and Animals.

One cannot fail to be impressed with the similarity of purpose exhibited in the structure of plants and animals, while the organs designed for special use are greatly diversified. The arm of a man has the same fundamental idea in its structure as the fore leg of a horse, though widely different in external appearance. The paddle of a dolphin, the pectoral fin of a fish, the wing of a bird are essentially the same.

If we now look at the method by which these organs are attached to the body, we shall still see a variety of purpose in the great plan. No animal with a back bone has the fore limbs connected with it by a bony structure. The arm of a man is attached to the shoulder blade, while the latter is separated from the backbone by another structure. Every butcher sees this in cutting up the fore quarters of an animal. The same holds true with fishes and birds. This structure gives great flexibility in their adaptation to the various wants of the body. The same similarity of purpose yet diversity of structure may be seen in plants as in animals. Look at the jointed runner of the wild-gourd, or couch grass. It has all the appearance of a root, but the plant is supplied with other real roots and these creepers under ground are only the ascending stems of the plant seeking a plan to emerge from the ground in the shape of a stalk, after it has thrown out its sturdiest roots for a support. So the tuber of the potato belongs rather to the stem than to the root, the bulb of a tulip or an onion is the same. The only difference between the runners of the strawberry and the couch-grass, is that one runs above ground and the other beneath. All these plants have separate organs for roots whose tendency is downward while that of runners is upward.

It is no uncommon thing for us to form a wrong classification of animals. How easily it is for us to regard all the varieties of the bat as belonging to the family of birds. But if we examine their structure a little more closely, we shall see that they have fur instead of feathers, that they are quadrupeds instead of bipeds, that they bring forth their young alive and nurse them as quadrupeds. They more nearly resemble the flying squirrel than a bird. So also if we examine the structure of the whale we shall no longer regard it as a fish, as it has all the essential structure to constitute a quadruped. This, too, brings forth its young alive and nurses them. It has a double circulation and warm blood, and is compelled to breathe atmospheric air like quadrupeds, in spite of its fish like habits in other respects. The barnacle which covers the rocks on the seashore, whenever the tide ebbes and flows is not classed with the mussel and clam as its shell-like covering and fixed position would indicate, but it really belongs to the lobster and crab family. When first hatched, it swims about the water, having the same jointed structure and head as these, till at last it becomes permanently attached to some object, when it is covered with a shell like substance. Such are some of the diversities and similarities in the structure of plants and animals.

Insects affecting the Gooseberry.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have a few lots of English Gooseberry bushes which blossom well, and the fruit at first, bids fair to do well, but before it is half grown, the worms entirely destroy the crop. I have tried several remedies in the spring, to no effect, and if you can give me some remedy you will confer a great favor upon many who are suffering from the same cause. A. CROSBY.

Albion March 27th, 1865.

NORRIS. Several kinds of worms prey upon the gooseberry, one of the most common of which is the "gooseberry worm"—a round bodied, and enormously marked measuring worm, about an inch long, having two legs, six in front and four behind. This worm is sometimes very destructive to the leaves, often completely stripping the bushes of them, and it is frequently found rolled up in the leaf like the bud worm. In descending from the bush, this worm suspends itself by a thread. The most effectual remedy is to knock the worms off into a dust-pan and burn them. It is not so slow a process as would at first seem.

Very often the fruit of the gooseberry becomes prematurely ripe, turns red and drops to the ground. This is caused by insects puncturing the berry and depositing their eggs within. Early in July the maggots appear in the fruit, which complete their transformations and give out the winged flies the latter part of the month. They not unfrequently deposit a second crop of eggs in the gooseberry, the larvæ of which remain in the ground during the winter and are ready again to deposit their eggs in June. This insect is called the Gooseberry Maggot (*Cecidomyia Grosulariae*). Something can be done towards destroying them by gathering the fruit which ripens prematurely, and that which falls to the ground—burning it in the fire. This destroys the worms contained in the berries, and by giving attention to the matter they can be got rid of, if there are no wild gooseberries for them to prey upon. The bushes of the latter should also be destroyed.—E.D.

Offer of Bulkley.

We have received the following letter from D. A. Bulkley, Esq., of Williamstown, Mass., the originator of several improved varieties of potatoes, and an intelligent and practical agriculturist. The offer he makes is a generous one, but as we are not in a situation to use them, we hope some one of our subscribers will take them who have opportunities for their culture. If so, will they please inform us that they may be forwarded at once:

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass., April 3, 1865.
DEAR SIR:—I wish to contribute my mite to the proposed "Horticultural Library," and will send a barrel of my seedling potatoes to you or any one you may order, the price to be added to the fund in your hands for that purpose. I enclose you a circular in which you will find the testimony of the late Dr. Holmes, who cultivated them two seasons, and any one will only need to know that he approved of them to be convinced of their good qualities, and if generally planted in your State, they would add thousands of dollars to the wealth of her people. D. A. BULKLEY.

Notes from our Copy Drawer.

IMPLEMENTS. (Subscriber, Penobscot.) The price of the one-horse Cayuga Chief Mower is \$150 delivered at the depot in Biddeford, the place where they are manufactured. Any more or works better on smooth ground. But we are told the Cayuga Chief will do very good work on a rough or uneven surface. Chandler's Horse Hoe can be procured of D. M. Dunham & Co., Bangor. We do not know the price.

SODA CRACKERS. (Lady Reader, Sherman Mills.) We find the following in a late number of the *American Agriculturist*: "Take three teaspoonfuls of sweet milk, one of butter, thirteen of flour, four teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, two of soda. Dissolve the soda and a little salt in the milk, put the cream of tartar into the flour, and also rub the butter into the flour, then mix with the milk. Roll very thin, prick very thickly, cut into squares, and bake in a quick oven."

TRUE'S POTATO PLANTER. (O. Foster, W. Gardiner.) They can be had of the manufacturer, J. L. True, Gardiner, Me. You had better address him direct. The price of the machine we do not know.

SPECIMEN OF WOOL. Mr. N. L. Marshall of West Paris sends us a sample of wool from one of his buck lambs, of the Cotswold breed. The specimen sent in length and quality is in striking contrast to those of the Merinos we have seen, it being 14 inches in length. Mr. Marshall writes that the weight of the fleece, from which the sample was taken, was 11½ lbs., and that his buck—noted by a correspondent in the *Farmer* for March 30th—weighs 300 lbs. instead of 250.

ONIONS. (C. B. J., Deer Isle.) Onions can be raised on a great variety of soils, but produce the best yield upon sandy loam, fine and clean, and under a good state of cultivation. Hen manure, guano, and finely pulverized stable manure form a good dressing for onions. After the plants come up, they should be watered with liquid manure by diluting hen manure or guano with water, and applying it once or twice a week. They need to be planted early in the spring. For pure seed, and also a valuable plant in the culture of onions, address J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass.

MERINO SHEEP FOR BRAZIL. The *Mass. Plover* states that four fine two-year-old ewes and a beautiful yearling buck, started on their way on the 17th to the emperor of Brazil, a present from Dr. George B. Loring, through Prof. Agassiz, who left last week to make explorations in the natural history of that magnificent country. We see no reason why the Improved American Merinos should not flourish and do exceedingly well there, and we hope to have a good account of them. All the ewes are expected to lamb in June. Samples of wool were also sent by Dr. Loring to the Brazilian Agricultural Society.

One of our correspondents, Mr. Seward Mitchell of Cornwall, enters a protest against the mutilation of sheep and lambs by cutting their tails and ears. It is a cruel practice. Some other method of marking should be adopted, and the use of the knife abandoned.

Queries about Manure.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have just commenced the business of farming and have yet to learn and practice the science of agriculture. A part, at least, of the requisite knowledge of this pursuit, I expect to derive from your valuable paper, in which I have been very much interested of late. Undoubtedly and imperceptibly in the pursuit of agriculture, you will overlook, I trust, the simplicity which will mark some of the questions I may chance to put. At present, I desire to know how manure, horse manure and sheep manure, should not be mixed with foreign substances that will tend to weaken them and render them more conducive to natural growth? With what should these manures be mixed, and in what proportions? To what kind of vegetation is each of these most congenial? If these questions are worthy of answers it will oblige me, for them to be given through the *Farmer*. A. READER.

NORRIS. Manures are rendered more valuable by being mixed or composted with dry loam or mud, because a larger quantity is obtained, and its quality is equally as good—perhaps better—than before being mixed. One third the bulk of the manure can be added of mud or dry loam to advantage. The manures named above are equally fitted for any farm crop. They are all rich in nitrogen. Horse manure is most valuable in its fresh state, as it contains largely of nitrogen and is very liable to lose by fermentation. That of the hog comes next in value. The manure from the cow is much more powerful in its effects as a fertilizer if they are fed on rich food, hence it is well policy for the farmer to feed well, for thereby gets two profits—the animal is better, and the manure is richer.—E.S.

Renovating Old Oil Cloth Carpets.

In these times of high prices, it becomes us to look at the old carpet and see what can be done with it. Instead of throwing it aside as worn out, just trim out the worn out spots, if any, set under another piece and cut it well to the floor. Now go to the painter and ask him to lend you his paint dishes for one day with a little paint ready mixed of the right color, and with small brushes, coat your will, or that steady hand daughter, to aid you, and commence to paint over the pattern. No matter if you vary a little from the original. Two persons can go to a good sized room in a day. Let dry, and then brush over a good coat of varnish when the room is warm, and you will have it as bright as new. We have tried it and know all about it. The expense is trifling, and the pleasure not small in saving twenty or thirty dollars at the same time.

That much worn woolen carpet should be looked at. Take it up, mend it, and when rinsing it, put a little alum in the water to brighten up the color, and it will last some years yet, at least, till the taxes are not quite so heavy.

"General Knox."

We have in our office—received through the kind attentions of our friend Thomas S. Lang, Esq., the owner of the New England Champion Station—a large sized, spirited and finely executed engraving of this celebrated horse. The original was painted by T. Robinson, and the engraving is so perfect that the fire of the eye, the graceful form, and even the muscles upon the legs and side are natural and perfect as in the original. It is a picture that all who love good horses will want to obtain, and copies can be had by addressing the owner at North Yarmouth.

Grapes.

There is a blight known as Bradbury's Mountain in Poland, in this State, about five hundred feet high, whose southern and eastern declivities are made up of terraces or steps of granite, having a small portion of soil on the different steps. We have thought for many years that the grape might be easily cultivated on these terraces. It is well known that land elevated a few hundred feet off the declivities of hills, is not subject to the autumnal frosts that are situated at a lower level. We are glad to learn that the experiment has been tried there on a limited scale with complete success. Mr. Jacob H. Cotton of that town, planted the Isabella and Hartford Prolific, four years ago this spring, on these terraces at the eastern base of the mountain. It is a gravelly soil considerably intermixed with decomposed forest leaves. He manures them by buying old horses in the fall, cutting them up fine and burying them deep, several feet from his vines. He fastens iron pins into the rocks above the vines and stretches iron wire from pin to pin for a trellis. The last two years he sold thirty-two dollars worth. He has started several other kinds of fruit, and you would judge as for as profitable as his grapes, as he can ripen them earlier than usual in this climate.

How pleasant it would be to see such a natural terrace covered its whole length with grapes. Are there not other sightless, craggy, useless looking ledges elsewhere in Maine that might be covered with grapes?

"The Holmes Library."

We insert the following note from Maj. Wilford of Wilton, who we believe has taken the *Farmer* from its commencement, and who is one of our most valued correspondents: "DEAR SIR:—I second the proposition of Mr. Arey, that each subscriber of the *Maine Farmer* contribute one dollar towards the 'Holmes Library' for the Agricultural College, and that you be treasurer for the time being, enclosing my dollar. Yours truly, J. H. WILLARD." In this connection we also present the following from the *Boston Cultivator*:

"The Maine Farmer proposes to the farmers of that State, that they subscribe to a library to be called the 'Holmes Library' for the Maine Agricultural College.' As a most worthy manner of perpetuating the name of Dr. Holmes, whose life was devoted to the promotion of the interests of the industrial classes. We cordially recommend this enterprise to the consideration and action of the farmers of Maine."

Communications.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—There is an opinion prevailing among many farmers, that stocking a farm principally with sheep, has a tendency to run it into other words that sheep husbandry is the best mode of farming. I have no objection to it, if it is a profitable mode of farming, and if it can be managed so as to make as much manure as other stock, and therefore it will not answer to have the farm stock entirely or largely of sheep. If you wish to grow sheep extensively, you must go where there is a market for them, or where there is an abundance of wild land to clear, so that the grass will grow with but little or no manuring. And I had grown up, thinking of course, it must be a profitable mode of farming. But I now take issue with those farmers and their long seated opinions, and fearlessly say that I think they are wrong—that sheep will make as much manure, properly managed, as any of the domestic animals. Their droppings are not so bulky as those of the ox or horse, but what is lacking in quantity is made up in quality. The alleged difference does not lay so much with the animal as with their management. I have seen great care to save the excrements of cattle; we go to the trouble of yarding or housing them every night, and muck, loam, straw, &c., are used to large quantities to mix with their droppings as an absorbent. Much time is spent in this way. But it is not so with sheep. They are left to roam in large enclosures night and day from the time they are put to grass in the spring till snow covers the ground. Just then their droppings, it is true, are not wholly lost, for they scatter a portion over the pasture where it is needed, but a large amount accumulates under shade trees, around large rocks, or in the corners of the enclosure, where the soil soon becomes so rich that the rank growth of grass is not at all suited to their over-rich taste, and is left to rot and die where it grows.

This matter do not contribute so much fertilizing material to our fields, as the flocks are usually managed, as other domestic animals, I will admit; and will for a few minutes consider how the manure from sheep may be better managed than that of other animals. Another person proposed to wash the trunks of apple trees with tobacco water to prevent the caterpillars from getting upon them in the first place! because he had spit some of the filthy matter on his face, and he said, "I made it squirm, he thought they would not pass up the trees if they washed. He did not happen to know that they had never been down. Few farmers would appreciate the money which would be saved by such a method. Another person proposed to wash the trunks of apple trees with tobacco water to prevent the caterpillars from getting upon them in the first place! because he had spit some of the filthy matter on his face, and he said, "I made it squirm, he thought they would not pass up the trees if they washed. 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THE MAINE FARMER - AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

David received Lee's despatch to evacuate while in church. He took on the train on which he escaped, horses and carriage, and he took to the country in case the evacuation was interrupted. He expressed himself as being determined not to give up, though it was certain he had little hope left.

The Legislature was in session as late as nine o'clock on Sunday evening, when the members started for Columbia by the canal and James river. Breckinridge left the city as late as 6 o'clock on Monday morning.

The Boston Journal has the following dispatch dated at Richmond, April 4th.

The public warehouses were fired by Gen. Ewell prior to the evacuation. It is asserted that the Gen. Breckinridge remonstrated against exploding the magazine by which many lives were lost, including nearly every inmate of the almshouse.

The wind blew freshly from the south, carrying burning shingles on to other roofs, and by noon Tuesday the flames had consumed every building between Main street to the river from 4th street into 15th street, with other buildings.

Major Sherman's cavalry were first at the Capitol, but the honor of actually raising the stars and stripes belongs to Lieut. G. M. Dupeyron, aid-de-camp to Gen. Shepley, whose headquarters' strategy was to capture the Capitol.

Lee's forces are demoralized beyond description, and Gordon's once noted second corps, which forms the rear guard of the rebels, takes no extra pains to arrest deserters or stragglers.

Two of Hill's division commanders were wounded, one mortally, and of the 2,000 veterans who went into the commencement of the last week's fighting, not over one-half are now with their colors.

More Glorious News—Lee's Army Again Routed by Sherman's Many Rebel Generals Captured.

To the Hon. Secretary of War: City Point, April 7—8 35 A. M. At 11.15 P. M. yesterday, at Burkeville Station, Gen. Grant sends me the following from Gen. Sheridan.

To Lieut. Geo. Grant: I have the honor to report that the army made a stand at the intersection of the Burkeville road with the road upon which they were retreating.

I attacked them with two divisions of the 6th Army Corps and the 1st Cavalry Division, making a connection with the cavalry. I am still pressing on with both cavalry and infantry.

Up to the present time we have captured General Ewell, Kershaw, Dalton, Cross, DeBarre and Castle Lee, several thousand prisoners, four teen pieces of artillery with caissons and a large number of wagons.

If the thing is pressed I think Lee will surrender. (Signed) P. H. Sheridan, Major General, Commanding.

MEADE'S HEADQUARTERS, 10 P. M. April 6. Lieut. Geo. Grant: At daylight this morning I moved the 24, 5th and 6th Army Corps along the railroad in the direction of Amelia Court House.

The 24 Army Corps soon became engaged with the enemy near Dumfries, driving him by the right flank. The 5th Army Corps made a long march, but its position prevented its striking the enemy's column before it had passed.

CAW! CAW! CAW!!! PATENT DRILLING MACHINE, PILE DRIVER, HYDRAULIC SAND PUMP. FARMER'S DON'T BE TRICKED BY COWS who can buy WILDER'S CROW KILLER.

A Clear, Smooth Skin and Beautiful Complexion follow the use of Helmbold's Concentrated Extract of Sarsaparilla. It removes black spots, pimples, and all eruptions of the skin.

TO CURE SCROFULA OR STRUMA—the popular name, "King's Evil"—old four ball ointment of Dr. E. T. HARRIS, 210 Broadway, New York.

THE BOWEN MICROSCOPE. MAGNIFYING 50 TIMES, adapted for any address for 50 CENTS. THREE DOLLAR SET.

Blacking, Bleaching, etc. The Boston and Navy Patent Blacking, and also the "Bleaching Fluid," made by F. Brown & Co., Boston.

Muscle hard chafers to soothe the Savage Brandy. It is a pure, medicinal, and restorative strong, very hair, soft, silken, and glossy, and eradicates dandruff.

THE MARKETS. (Continued weekly by J. M. HARRIS, Jr., of H. H. HARRIS & Co., and W. H. HARRIS.)

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE. Situated in the southern part of New Hampshire, 41 miles from Portsmouth, 10 miles from Dover.

PORTLAND MARKET. Apples. Green \$1.00 per bushel; Red \$1.25 per bushel; Yellow \$1.50 per bushel.

NEW-YORK MARKET. April 10. Flour—Super \$2.40; Extra \$2.50; Family \$2.60; Corn—Yellow \$1.00; White \$1.10; Oats—\$0.75.

THE GREAT GERMAN HELMUT. COUGHS AND COLDS. THE GREAT GERMAN HELMUT. CONSUMPTION IN ITS FIRST STAGES.

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OLD AND YOUNG SHOULD USE STERLING'S AMBROSIA FOR THE HAIR. It prevents or stops the hair from falling; cleanses, beautifies, preserves, and renders it soft and glossy.

STERLING'S AMBROSIA MANUFACTURING CO.'S, SOLE PROPRIETORS, NEW YORK. Organized under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ANGLO-SAXON PETROLEUM CO., OF BOSTON. Organized under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OLIVER AMES & SONS, QUINCY HALL AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE, 100 N. BROAD ST., BOSTON.

FLOOR OF BONE—WARRANTED PURE. THE attention of Farmers, and others interested, is directed to the above article.

NOISES IN THE HEAD, CATARRH, DISCHARGES FROM THE EAR, AND ALL DISEASES OF THE EAR AND THROAT.

DR. CAMPBELL of New York. Who will be at the AUGUSTA HOUSE—AUGUSTA, Monday, April 17th, 1865.

NEW DRESS GOODS, CLOAKS, SHAWLS, SILKS, BALMORALS, HOSIERY AND GLOVES, FANCY GOODS, &c.

WHEELER & HOBBS. 5-20 U. S. BONDS, 10-40 U. S. BONDS, 20-40 U. S. BONDS.

THE GALLATIN LAND, COAL AND OIL COMPANY, OF WEST VIRGINIA. Capital Stock, \$1,000,000.

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FOR THE WESTERN STATES. THROUGH TICKETS TO AUGUSTA, VIA NIAGARA FALLS, TO CHICAGO, AND ALL POINTS WEST!

NEW PERFUME FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF. PHALON'S "BLOOMING ORCHIDS."

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